

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/NZ2004/000304

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member					
US	4068574		NONE				
US	4842883		NONE				
US	4230034	CA	1108502	EP	0014598	JP	56008677
		PL	221966	US	4258069	YU	36980

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NZ2004/000304

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER																						
Int. Cl. ⁷ : A23N 12/02, A22C 29/00, F16H 7/02, B08B 1/04																						
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC																						
B. FIELDS SEARCHED																						
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)																						
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched																						
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI: IPC: F16H 7/-, B08B 1/04, B08B 3/06 with keywords: barrel, chmaber, cylinder, body, housing, casing, cage, case, drum, vessel, container, receptacle, belt, tooth, teeth, cog, timing, synchron.																						
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT																						
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.																				
X	US 4068574 A (AMSTAD) 17 January 1978 Whole document	1-3, 5, 7																				
X	US 4842883 A (AMSTAD) 27 June 1989 Whole document	7																				
X	US 4230034 A (AMSTAD) 28 October 1980 Whole document	7																				
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex																				
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%; vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"A"</td> <td style="width: 15%; vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td style="width: 15%; vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"T"</td> <td style="width: 55%; vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"E"</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"X"</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"L"</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"Y"</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"O"</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"&"</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">"P"</td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 2px;">document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family	"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed																					
Date of the actual completion of the international search 1 March 2005	Date of mailing of the international search report 14 MAR 2005																					
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6283 3929	Authorized officer KURT TOBLER Telephone No : (02) 6283 2469																					

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Invention group 1: Claims 1-6

Invention group 2: Claim 7.

See additional sheet.

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No: III

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

1. Claims 1 to 6 and 8 are directed a drive mechanism for food and produce handling having a single motor adapted to drive via a V belt drive the shafts which are linked and driven by a toothed timing belt slave. It is considered that a single motor adapted to drive via a V belt drive the shafts which are linked and driven by a toothed timing belt slave comprises a first "special technical feature".
2. Claim 7 is directed to a drive mechanism for a rotary barrel brush washer for washing vegetables, fruit and shellfish. It is considered that a rotary barrel brush washer for washing vegetables, fruit and shellfish comprises a second special technical feature.

The feature common to all of the claims is a drive mechanism for food and produce handling. However this common feature is generic in the art. Consequently the common feature does not constitute "a special technical feature" within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence, since it makes no contribution over the prior art. Since there exists no other common feature which can be considered as a special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence, no technical relationship within the meaning of PCT Rule 13 between the different inventions can be seen. Consequently the claims do not satisfy the requirement of unity of invention a posteriori.

Although technical differences exist between the two inventions, search and examination for the second invention will not require more than a little additional effort over that for the first invention, and therefore an additional search fee is not warranted.